

SECRET

Executive Registry

Approved For Release 2002/05/02 : CIA-RDP78-04718A001600230021-8

CONFIDENTIAL

11 MAY 1955

MS-546
4.3

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director (Support)

ATTENTION : Chief, Management Staff

THROUGH : Deputy Director (Intelligence)

SUBJECT : Need for Increase in T/O Strength and Ceiling for the Photo Intelligence Division, Geographic Area, Research and Reports

PROBLEM:

1. To establish a table of organization for the Photo Intelligence Division which will adequately provide for the fulfillment of its designated responsibilities.

FACTS BEARING ON THE PROBLEM:

2. The Photo Intelligence Division was established in Fiscal Year 1953 as a result of action by the Projects Review Committee, following the submittal of a staff study to the Project Review Committee through the DD/I, from the AD/RR, subject, "Staffing for Photo Intelligence within ORR", dated 17 July 1952. The mission and functions of the Division were detailed in the above referenced staff study and were further delineated in ORR [] dated 2 November 1953. Included as Tab "A" is that part of the Office Regulation pertaining to the Photo Intelligence Division.

3. The staffing pattern proposed in the above referenced staff study allocated [] positions for the new Division, [] of which were to be filled by professional Photo Intelligence Officers. The organization and the staffing pattern as proposed has been carried out (see Tab "B"). Extreme care has been exercised in the recruitment of the professional staff of the Division in recognition of the stringent requirements and responsibilities delineated in the mission and functions. To get the right kind of people to do the job that was planned in 1952 has required a high degree of selectivity, and has resulted in the accumulation of excellently qualified personnel for the accomplishment of the mission.

4. The 1952 staffing plan was a modest one, intended to be experimental in size of T/O until more specific demands for Photo intelligence support became real.

CONFIDENTIAL

Document No. 3
Is Change in Class. <input type="checkbox"/>
Class. Changed to: TS S C
Next Review Date: 12-13-58
Auth: HR 70-3
12-13-58
By: 50

BEH

2 1955

~~SECRET~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

5. Since its beginning, the Division has been confronted with more requirements for substantive and technical support than could ever be accomplished with the limited number of personnel available at any given time. It has been possible only to direct attention to the highest priority projects and to limit the work on these by arbitrarily restricting man-hours application, which did not allow maximum exploitation of photography or professional capability. Of the functions listed in [redacted] (Tab "A"), present divisional strength allows only a partial fulfillment of some of the functions, and absolutely no attention to the others. The Division has been able to partially carry out the responsibilities of functions 1, 3, 5, 6, 7, and 8, and has been able to do very little with 2 and 4.

25X1A

6. The limitation imposed by ceiling and T/O, and the increasing demand for photographic interpretation and photo intelligence support, have combined to create an untenable organizational situation in the Division. Highly qualified individuals are being forced to run from project to project in an attempt to satisfy the most demanding requirements of each, but in no way able to fully exploit the intelligence potential of photographic material, and never able to spend the necessary time for training CIA intelligence officers in the proper utilization of photographic information, nor to do any long-range planning to build a sound organizational base in order to meet the expanding needs of the Agency.

7. With the development of each tension area in the world for which current photography is available, uncompromisable demands are placed on the Photo Intelligence Division. Each trouble spot requires constant and continuing attention and these have increased over the past year to the point of monopolizing available personnel capabilities, leaving little or no reserve strength for other important work.

8. Heavy demands have also been placed upon the personnel of the Division by the DCI. Presently several members of the Staff are assigned to this area of special support. It is estimated that an additional [redacted] Intelligence Officers will be required to provide adequate related support.

25X1A

9. Special support for the DCI has required about 25% of the Division's capability since 1 January 1955. The requirement

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SECRET

25X1A

is increasing and is scheduled to go well beyond the present total capacity of the Division during FY 1956. Special support for current intelligence presently expends more than 50% of the Division's capability which is meeting only the most urgent requirements. Photo intelligence support of research programs of the Economic and Geographic Areas of OHR has steadily declined and presently is using 12% of the Division's capability, largely because of the overriding priorities of the support required for the DCI and for current intelligence on the [] situation. Until recently, approximately 50% of Division time was spent in support of the DD/P area projects. This has now been forced down to around 10%. The Office of Scientific Intelligence requirements are not being met except on a delayed basis.

10. Current aerial photography is being received in increasing quantity from a number of sources and its full intelligence potential must be adequately exploited and application made to both current and long-range intelligence research programs and operations of the Agency.

DISCUSSION:

11. The thinking and planning which resulted in the creation of the Photo Intelligence Division in FY 1953, envisioned a small but effectively capable group of photo intelligence analysts to exploit aerial and ground photography for intelligence purposes in support of the economic and geographic research programs of OHR. A few other objectives, including the training of intelligence officers, especially those in the Economic and Geographic Areas, in the utilization of photographs on average complex problems, and some photo intelligence support to other CIA offices were anticipated at the time of organization. At that time it was not possible to predict the present requirements, the tremendous insatiable need for substantive and technical photo intelligence support to offices within CIA. It is understandable that, not having the benefit of the past three years of practical experience, the 1952 plan resulted in an inadequately-manned staff. It is possible to keep the Division at its current strength, as it was first experimentally established, but in doing so it must be recognized that the exploitation of aerial and ground photography potential will be severely limited, and thereby deny to various programs, projects, and operations this valuable source of intelligence.

SECRET

SECRET

25X1A

12. The Division at its current T/O strength is forced because of heavy project demands into project task groups for handling only emergency crash priorities. Optimum development and application of the photographs' intelligence potential is not possible. The development of further substantive competence cannot be undertaken. All work thus far has drawn heavily on the imported reservoir of competence brought in by each new employee.

13. In due recognition of the emphasis being given to the wartime functions of Agency components, it is important that the organizational base of the Photo Intelligence Division be augmented at this time to permit the development of sound procedures, the establishment of effective and complete liaison activities, and the orderly growth of substantive and technical personnel competence for meeting the needs already expressed and pressing in CIA. It is anticipated that in a "hot war" situation normal sources of intelligence will tend to decrease, forcing greater reliance on reconnaissance photography which will be arriving in ever increasing quantities for meeting current intelligence requirements.

14. Further exploration of military photo intelligence capabilities for meeting CIA needs, beyond that which was done prior to the Division's establishment, has conclusively proved that the Agency can expect little in the form of direct assistance. Their programs and personnel capabilities, geared as they must be to meeting military requirements, are not adaptable to the specialized interpretation needs of intelligence programs in CIA.

15. The Photo Intelligence Division, on the basis of two and one-half years' experience has established that a need exists for developing further support to the components of the Agency in the fields of photo intelligence, interpretation, and photogrammetry. The proposed organization for the Division (Tab "C") includes a strengthening of Division headquarters, an increase of capability for the Industrial and Geographic Branches, and the creation of three new units, the Requirements Support Staff, a Technical Intelligence Branch, and a Special Support Branch. The mission and functions for the Division and each component is delineated in Tab "D".

CONCLUSIONS:

16. That the Agency requirement for photo interpretation, intelligence and photogrammetry far exceeds the current capabilities of the Photo Intelligence Division.

17. That the components of the Agency have recognized the intelligence potential inherent in aerial and ground photography and are placing increased demands on already burdened capabilities.

SECRET

SECRET

18. That in order to meet expanding Agency requirements the Division's capabilities must be increased by augmentation of staff as proposed in Tab "C".

ACTION RECOMMENDED:

25X9 19. That the T/O of the Photo Intelligence Division be increased from [] positions as soon as possible as proposed in Tab "C".

25X9 20. That the position ceiling authorization for GRR be increased from []

[]
OTTO E. GUTH
Assistant Director
Research and Reports

25X1A

CONCURRENCE:

ROBERT AMORY JR.
DEPUTY DIRECTOR/INTELLIGENCE

31 May 1955
DATE

PLEASE EXPEDITE

25X1A

GRR: OCh/G: [] lmc
9 May 1955

ATTACHMENTS:

- TAB "A" - Excerpt from GRR, Office Regulation R70-3, 2 November 1955
- TAB "B" - Present T/O Fiscal Year 1955 - Photo Intelligence Division, Geographic Area, GRR
- TAB "C" - Proposed T/O - Photo Intelligence Division, Geographic Area, GRR
- TAB "D" - Proposed Mission and Functions for the Photo Intelligence Division
- TAB "E" - Summary of Proposed Changes

SECRET